

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

10. (Amended) A chewing gum composition including ~~an-a~~ water insoluble abrasive filler substance, characterized in that wherein the said abrasive filler substance is selected from the group consisting of abrasive silica, calcium carbonate, talc, kaolin and mixtures thereof and is encapsulated in ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres of cross-linked alginate.
11. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the said ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres have an equivalent average diameter lying between 0.6 and 1.5 mm.
12. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the said ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres have an equivalent average diameter lying between 1 and 1.2 mm.
13. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the said ~~micro-spheres~~ microspheres are present in quantities from 1% to 10% by weight referred to the weight of the chewing gum.

14. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according Claim 1, characterized in that
wherein the said-abrasive filler substance is present in particles having dimensions expressed as
equivalent average diameter, lying between 2 and 100 um.

15. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 5, characterized in that
wherein the said-abrasive filler substance has a particle size lying between 6 and 10 um.

16. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that
wherein the said micro-spheres microspheres comprise from 80% to 99% by weight of abrasive
filler substance.

17. (Amended) A chewing gum composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that
wherein the said micro-spheres microspheres further include ingredients chosen from flavorings,
sweeteners, active agents and mixtures thereof.